

## Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05

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DOE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-01 INR-10 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 /148 W

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R 101236Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9441

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 07127

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS - SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

1. IN CANDID PRIVATE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SOVIET DEPUTY LEGAL ADVISOR KOVALEV AND USDEL VICE CHAIRMAN OXMAN THAT HAD A "WHO SHOT JOHN" QUALITY TO IT, KOVALEV INSISTED THAT HE STUCK BY "SATURDAY NIGHT DEAL" NEGOTIATED ON SCIENCE AND STATUS OF ECONOMIC ZONE AT END OF LAST SESSION, AND SO INFORMED COMMITTEE III CHAIRMAN YANKOV. HE FURTHER INSISTED THAT CHANGES MADE FROM NEGOTIATED TEXT WERE MADE BY YANKOV AND CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE IN RESPONSE TO LDC PRESSURE.

2. HOWEVER, AT CONCLUSION OF CONVERSATION, KOVALEV AGREED TO "RECOMMEND TO THE MINISTER" THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION ACCEPT THE US AMENDMENTS DESIGNED TO RESTORE THE NEGOTIATED PACKAGE, AND SO INFORM CHAIRMAN YANKOV.

3. KOVALEV INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PUBLIC CHANGE IN SOVIET POSITION, AND SAID THAT TACTICAL  
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PROBLEM OF PERSUADING LDC'S WAS FOR USDEL TO RESOLVE. OXMAN DEMURRED, STRESSING THAT BOTH DELEGATIONS HAD HISTORICALLY TAKEN THE POSITION THAT REASONABLE REQUESTS BY THE OTHER FOR CONFERENCE NEGOTIATIONS ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO EITHER SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO SUBSTANTIVE ATTITUDES. IT WAS THEREFORE ENTIRELY POSSIBLE FOR THE

SOVIET DELEGATION TO INFORM OTHER DELEGATIONS THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE CONFERENCE TO IGNORE THE STRONG STATEMENTS MADE BY THE US ON THE SUBJECT, AND THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON MODEST CHANGES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF OVERALL COMPROMISE WOULD BE REASONABLE.

4. COMMENT: COMING FAST ON THE HEELS OF APPARENT US-SOVIET SETTLEMENT OF POLLUTION ISSUES, AND WITHOUT ANY REQUEST FOR A QUID PRO QUO, IT WOULD SEEM THAT SOVIETS ARE EITHER LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR SITUATION IN WHICH US DOES NOT BLAME THEM FOR FAILURE TO ACHIEVE DESIRED CHANGES IN POLLUTION AND SCIENCE TEXTS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF CHAIRMAN YANKOV OF BULGARIA, OR THAT SOVIETS HAVE DECIDED THEY WISH TO WRAP UP THE COMMITTEE III TEXTS, AND ARE ACCORDINGLY PREPARED TO MAKE MODEST CHANGES TO ACHIEVE THIS. FURTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT SOVIETS FEAR GENERAL US CHALLENGE TO STATUS OF ALL TEXTS NEGOTIATED IN COMMITTEE III UNDER YANKOV. WE SUSPECT BILATERAL PRESSURE HELPED, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO REFERENCE TO MATTER. NEEDLESS TO SAY, KOZYREV MAY REJECT KOVALEV RECOMMENDATION.  
RICHARDSON

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## Message Attributes

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